Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PRETOR 04056 181102Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 /094 W
----------069545 181204Z /50
P R 181022Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1773
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 4056

FROM LOW

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, RH
SUBJECT: TWO BLACKS RESIGN FROM RECONSTITUTED RHODESIA BROADCASTING CORPORATION BOARD

1. FIVE DAYS AFTER NINE RHODESIANS (FIVE WHITE, FOUR BLACK) WERE NAMED BY THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TO THE BOARD OF A RECONSTITUTED RHODESIAN BROADCASTING CORP. (RBC) BOARD, TWO OF THE BLACK MEMBERS RESIGNED ALLEGEDLY BECAUSE THEIR APPOINTMENTS HAD "DEVELOPED POLITICAL CONNOTATIONS" AND BECAUSE OF RESISTANCE TO CHANGE BY WHITE BOARD MEMBERS. IN A JOINT LETTER WASHINGTON SANSOLE, A BULAWAYO ATTORNEY, AND REV. CHARLES MANYOBA, "SUPERINTENDENT" OF THE BULAWAYO METHODIST CHURCH, SAID THEY HAD ACCEPTED THE APPOINTMENTS KNOWING THE RBC WAS REGARDED AS A GOVERNMENT PROPAGANDA
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PRETOR 04056 181102Z

MOUTHPIECE. THEY BELIEVED, HOWEVER, THEY COULD EFFECT CHANGES; BUT WERE SUBSEQUENTLY "ADVISED THAT OUR BELIEF IS MISPLACED." FURTHER, THEY SAID, EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE A-POLITICAL, THE PUBLIC HAD REGARDED THEIR APPOINTMENT AS AN EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT. THEY HADN'T, THEY STATED, BEEN ABLE TO DISPEL THIS BELIEF; AND THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT'S

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

FAILURES HAD ONLY PUT THEM IN A MORE DIFFICULT POSITION.
THE RESULTANT POLITICAL CONNOTATIONS, THEY SAID, MADE IT
NECESSARY FOR THEM TO RESIGN.

2. THE NEW BOARD, WHICH REPLACED THE PREVIOUSLY ALL-WHITE
MEMBERSHIP, WAS REPORTEDLY CONSTITUTED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF
A CHAIRMAN APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WITH MATCHING
MEMBERS OF BLACKS AND WHITES NOMINATED BY THE RHODESIA FRONT
PARTY AND THE BLACK EXCO MEMBERS. MOST OF THE BLACKS,
INCLUDING SANSOLE AND MANYOBA, WERE NOT POLITICALLY PROMINENT.
HOWEVER, ALL THE WHITES, LIKE THOSE APPOINTED TO THE
COMMISSION ON RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, WERE REPUTED TO BE
HARD-LINE RIGHT-WINGERS. ONE, MRS. LIN MEHMEL, FORMER
GENERAL MANAGER OF RHODESIA TV, WAS ONE OF ARCHITECTS OF
CHIEF CHIRAU'S ZUPO PARTY. PRESUMABLY THE
WHITES' RESISTANCE TO MEANINGFUL CHANGE AND THEIR POLITICAL
TIES WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN THE TWO BLACKS' DECISION TO RESIGN.
EDMONDSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BROADCASTING, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PRETOR04056
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780294-0510
Format: TEL
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780748/aaaabnzd.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 002a5171-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1970212
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TWO BLACKS RESIGN FROM RECONSTITUTED RHODESIA BROADCASTING CORPORATION BOARD
TAGS: PINT, SOPN, RH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/002a5171-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014